

ADMINISTRATOR'S TALKING POINTS FOR  
PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE  
THE X-PRIZE  
GATEWAY ARCH, ST. LOUIS  
MAY 18, 1996

- It is with a great deal of personal pleasure that I appear here today at the launch the X-Prize.

- we*
- At NASA ~~I have tried to move~~ *we are moving* away from the traditional way of doing business ~~and~~ *to* find new ways to do things faster, better, and cheaper. We are returning ~~our focus~~ *that focuses on cutting edge science* to being a premier research and development agency ~~and~~ *technology* will direct our resources at ~~exploring~~ *exploring* those things that no one else can do. *we look to the private sector to open up the space frontier for commercial & tourism opportunities.*
  - The X Prize concept is consistent with this new direction and shows what can be done when ~~we~~ *people* look for solutions "outside the box." I am ~~most~~ *thrilled* pleased that this is a private venture ~~and supports what we at~~

To open the space further for <sup>all american</sup> ~~commercial~~  
~~NASA truly believe~~ technological advances ~~are not~~ cannot be  
the sole province of government. ~~as a government official~~

- As a government official, I can't endorse a private initiative or show favoritism to one private concept over another. However, NASA has several appropriate roles with respect to the X Prize. First of all we can applaud the effort.
- Next, we can fulfill our responsibilities identified in the Space Act of 1958 that are relevant to the purpose of the X Prize. The Act directs us to:
- improve the usefulness, performance, speed, safety, and efficiency of aeronautical and space vehicles.

- develop vehicles capable of carrying instruments, equipment, supplies, and living organisms through space.
  - encourage and provide for Federal Government use of commercially provided space services.
  - provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning our activities and results.
- 

- Nothing in the Space Act says those things must only be carried out by government. They can and should also be vigorously pursued by private industry; ~~it~~ <sup>when</sup> <sup>stop</sup> government should help where it can. <sup>and a if's</sup> help is requested.

- held* *organizable*
- In that spirit we can cooperate with those *companies*

and entrepreneurs who will compete for the Prize.

*and want our help.*

While we can't provide endorsements or development

dollars, we will respond wherever we legally can to

~~computational design & analysis codes and~~  
requests for technological information, safety-related

*and*  
advice from X Prize participants just as we do for

American companies engaged in the aeronautics and

*This partnership fueled the*  
*dynamic growth of the US aircraft industry*  
aeronautics enterprises. I anticipate that this could

evolve into *as well,* mutually beneficial relationships that

ultimately benefit the American public. *in space new low cost*

- we will continue to develop*  
*rocket engines, materials, avionics*  
*and other systems that are*  
*presently unavailable to the private*
- We have several methods through which we can *contr.*

cooperate with X Prize contestants:

- Through Technical Exchange Agreements we can
- share all public information we have on a non-
- interference basis.

- Through Space Act Agreements we can participate in studies and planning activities, make available

government facilities, and perform analysis and tests, and provide advanced computational codes for design analysis & simulation if it is in the interest of the government and the

capability is uniquely vested in the government, or

unavailable from the commercial sources.

- we will accelerate the pace of inventory of revolutionary low cost reusable rocket engines, materials, lightweight materials, avionics, environmental control and other systems available to advancing public & private
- Finally, through Cooperative Agreements NASA can, ~~following submission and evaluation of a proposal, provide partial funding for specific research and development activities. NASA personnel can actively participate in the implementation of the activity, but NASA may not buy goods or services.~~   
 *we will transfer these technologies to the private sector for use by all interested parties.*

- It is appropriate that this exciting opportunity is being spearheaded by the private sector. I believe this

competition will spark new methods and progress in the commercial sector, much as the early aviation pioneers did at the turn of the century.

- The Federal government can also share the dream that private citizens could one day routinely fly in space.

This has been a compelling dream for decades. In the 1920s, citizens begged Robert Goddard for an opportunity to fly on his “Moon Rocket” while it was a mere theory in his mind. In the 1950s a “Planetary Tour Reservation” form developed as a promotional piece for a space lecture at the Hayden Planetarium, resulted in request from 12,000 dreamers from around the world. During the age of Apollo, 93,000 citizens signed up with Pan Am airlines for a round-trip reservation to the lunar surface on the “First Moon Flight Club.” ~~As flights of the Space Shuttle became~~

~~more commonplace in the 1980s, thousands of space  
enthusiasts sent letters to NASA pleading with us to  
just say go.~~

- The government will always play a role in helping to develop the technologies and systems that will enable this long-held dream, but make no mistake, it is the private sector that will <sup>to provide basic scientific knowledge</sup> <sup>and private access</sup> build the machines <sup>to</sup> make the dream a reality. <sup>finally</sup> <sup>for all Americans.</sup>

- The X-Prize offers yet another example of how the new NASA is working with the private sector to bring the benefits of Federally sponsored research in science and technology to the public in the form of new products and services.

- On behalf of the NASA Team, we wish the X-Prize organizers and the New Spirit of St. Louis Committee much success in this endeavor. We encourage the Prize participants. Let the contest begin!

NOON, 5/17/96



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WE are moving  
• At NASA ~~I have tried to move~~ away from the traditional way of doing business ~~and~~ <sup>to</sup> find new ways to do things faster, better, and cheaper. We are returning ~~our focus~~ to being a premier research and development agency <sup>that focuses on cutting edge science technology & exploration</sup> and <sup>we</sup> will direct our resources at those things that no one else can do.

- The X Prize concept is consistent with this new direction and shows what can be done when we look for solutions “outside the box.” I am most pleased that this is a private venture and supports what we at

NASA truly believe: technological advances are not the sole province of government.

- As a government official, I can't endorse a private initiative or show favoritism to one private concept over another. However, NASA has several appropriate roles with respect to the X Prize. First of all we can applaud the effort.
- Next, we can fulfill our responsibilities identified in the Space Act of 1958 that are relevant to the purpose of the X Prize. The Act directs us to:
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- develop vehicles capable of carrying instruments, equipment, supplies, and living organisms through space.
- encourage and provide for Federal Government use of commercially provided space services.
- provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning our activities and results.
- Nothing in the Space Act says those things must only be carried out by government. They can and should also be vigorously pursued by private industry; and government should help where it can.

- In that spirit we can cooperate with those companies and entrepreneurs who will compete for the Prize.

While we can't provide endorsements or development dollars, we will respond wherever we legally can to requests for technological information safety-related advice from X Prize participants just as we do for American companies engaged in the aeronautics and astronautics enterprises. I anticipate that this could evolve into a mutually beneficial relationships that ultimately benefit the American public.

- We have several methods through which we can cooperate with X Prize contestants:
- Through Technical Exchange Agreements we can share all public information we have on a non-interference basis.

- Through Space Act Agreements we can participate in studies and planning activities, make available government facilities, and perform analysis and tests, if it is in the interest of the government and the capability is uniquely vested in the government, or unavailable from the commercial sources.
- Finally, through Cooperative Agreements NASA can, following submission and evaluation of a proposal, provide partial funding for specific research and development activities, NASA personnel can actively participate in the implementation of the activity, but NASA may not buy goods or services.
- It is appropriate that this exciting opportunity is being spearheaded by the private sector. I believe this

competition will spark new methods and progress in the commercial sector, much as the early aviation pioneers did at the turn of the century.

- The Federal government can also share the dream that private citizens could one day routinely fly in space. This has been a compelling dream for decades. In the 1920s, citizens begged Robert Goddard for an opportunity to fly on his “Moon Rocket” while it was a mere theory in his mind. In the 1950s a “Planetary Tour Reservation” form developed as a promotional piece for a space lecture at the Hayden Planetarium, resulted in request from 12,000 dreamers from around the world. During the age of Apollo, 93,000 citizens signed up with Pan Am airlines for a round-trip reservation to the lunar surface on the “First Moon Flight Club.” As flights of the Space Shuttle became

more commonplace in the 1980s, thousands of space enthusiasts sent letters to NASA pleading with us to just say go.

- The government will always play a role in helping to develop the technologies and systems that will enable this long-held dream, but make no mistake, it is the private sector that will build the machines to make the dream a reality.
- The X-Prize offers yet another example of how the new NASA is working with the private sector to bring the benefits of Federally sponsored research in science and technology to the public in the form of new products and services.

- On behalf of the NASA Team, we wish the X-Prize organizers and the New Spirit of St. Louis Committee much success in this endeavor. We encourage the Prize participants. Let the contest begin!

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This is background information on the main aspects of what NASA may legally do under several types of Agreements With Others. It is not intended to be a legal document, nor does it claim to be complete. It has been coordinated with June Edwards, Code G.

### **In Technical Exchange Agreements:**

- On request, our people can share all **public** information we may have, on a **non-interference basis**

### **In Space Act Agreements:**

We can do the above, plus:

- Participate in planning, do studies, hold workshops, coordinate with other entities, make available government facilities , perform analyses and tests, etc. but **only if it is in the interest of the government, and** the capability is:
  - **uniquely** vested in the government, or
  - **unavailable** from commercial sources
- we can provide these services on a **reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis**

### **In Cooperative Agreements:**

We can do the above, plus:

- Following submission and evaluation of a proposal (process is very flexible), NASA can provide **partial funding** for specific research and development activities (if we play a **real intellectual role** in their implementation)
- NASA personnel may **actively participate in the implementation** of the activity (including solving new problems, participation in working meetings with the non-NASA project leaders, etc.)
- NASA may **not** buy goods or services.